

of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 106^{th} congress, first session

Vol. 145

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1999

No. 147

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Ever-loving God, we thank You for the quiet rest of the night, for the promise that has come with this new day, and for the hope that we feel. While we slept, we rested under the shadow of Your love. Now, as sleep has been washed from the eyes of our minds, implant them with trifocal lenses so that we may be able to behold Your signature in the natural world around us, see the needs of people so we can care for them with sensitivity, and visualize the work that we must do. With minds alert and hearts at full attention, we salute You as our Sovereign. Thank You for meeting all the needs of our bodies, souls, and spirits so that we can serve You with renewed dedication. As You hover around us as we pray, grant us wisdom throughout the day. In the name of Him who is Your amazing grace. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable GEORGE VOINO-VICH, a Senator from the State of Ohio, led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VOINOVICH). The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will resume debate on

the motion to proceed to the African trade bill with a cloture vote on the motion to proceed scheduled to occur at 10 a.m. Following the vote, it is hoped that the Senate can start debate on the bill so that Senators can begin to offer their amendments. Completion of the bill is expected to occur midweek so that the Senate can move to other items on the calendar prior to adjournment. The conference committees are working to complete action on the two remaining appropriations conference reports, and the Senate will consider these conference reports as soon as they become available.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPOR-ACT-MOTION TO PRO-TUNITY CEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 434, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to the consideration of H.R. 434, an act to authorize a new trade investment policy for sub-Saharan Africa.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 30 minutes for debate equally divided.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I rise in support of the motion to proceed to H.R. 434. As I indicated on Friday, when we proceeded to the bill, I will offer a substitute to the House language that consists of the Finance Committee-reported bills on Africa, CBI, GSP renewal, and the reauthorization of our Trade Adjustment Assistance programs.

Each one of these measures deserves our support. What each represents in its own way is an attempt to reach out and provide not just a helping hand, but an opportunity—an opportunity for millions around the world to seize their own economic destiny.

Africa has for too long suffered from our neglect. The continent faces daunting political, economic, and social challenges. Yet, African leaders are seizing the opportunity to press for political and economic change.

The goal of the Finance Committee's Africa bill is to meet Africa's leaders half way. It is not a panacea for Africa's problems; rather, it is a small downpayment—an investment—in a partnership that I hope we can foster through our actions here.

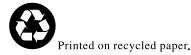
The Finance Committee's CBI bill does much the same. It builds on an economic foundation begun with the passage of the original CBI in 1983, but responds as well to the efforts of Caribbean and Central American leaders to rebuild their economies in the face of incalculable devastation their countries faced this past year. The bill would afford the same basic package of enhanced trade preferences offered to Africa under the Finance Committee's

The economic opportunities offered by the Finance Committee Africa and CBI bills extend to U.S. industry as well. According to the American Textile Manufacturers Institute, the Finance Committee bills would lead to an increase in their sales of \$8.8 billion over 5 years and an increase in employment of 121,000 jobs. The bills are expressly designed to ensure that they are a benefit to Africa and the Caribbean, and to the United States as well.

The renewal of the Generalized System of Preferences would continue the longstanding policy of the United States of opening our market to create economic opportunity throughout the developing world and merits our continued support.

The renewal of the Trade Adjustment Assistance programs is entirely consistent with the theme of creating economic opportunity, but it is focused on

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



S13109